

09/560,371

MS147249.01/MSFTP102US

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Claims 1-7 and 26-28 have been cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer.

1-7 (Cancelled)

8. (Previously presented) A system that facilitates modeling of business processes comprised of a plurality of business operations, comprising:

a computer-readable medium; and

a plurality of computer-executable files comprising:

a scheduling component that employs a dataflow diagram to define a flow of business operations, the dataflow diagram includes actions coupled *via* data flowing between them; and

a binding component that defines the business operations through a schedule message, a port connection, a port and a message interface with a component outside of the schedule.

9. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component further defines technology specific information for binding business operations to at least one technological component.

10. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component binds a single business operation to a plurality of technological components.

11. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, further comprising a binding file that provides port and message mapping between business operations and between business operations and technological components.

12. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component further defines message structure and declares messages.

09/560,371

MS147249.01/MSFTP102US

13. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component further defines context semantics.
14. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component further defines schedule conditionals.
15. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, further including a second binding component that binds the business operations with a second component outside of the schedule.
16. (Previously presented) A system for facilitating modeling of business processes comprised of a plurality of business operations, the system comprising a computer-readable medium and a plurality of computer-executable files comprising:
a scheduling component that defines the flow of business operations in a schedule; and
a binding component that separates the schedule from implementations of a workflow and maps actions in the schedule to calls on at least one technological component.
17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, the binding component binds a single business operation to a plurality of technological components.
18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, business operations are actions connected by data flowing between them and actions are ports and messages wherein a binding file provides virtual port and message mapping between business operations and between business operations and technological components.
19. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, the binding component further defines message structure and declares messages.
20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, the binding component further defines context semantics.

09/560,371

MS147249.01/MSFTP102US

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, the binding component further defines schedule conditionals.

22. (Previously presented) A computer implemented business process scheduling software comprising:

a data flow module that allows a user to define a flow of business operations in a file that is utilized with a plurality of disparate business implementations; and

a binding module that allows a user to define a link between the file with business operations and the plurality of disparate business implementations.

23. (Previously presented) The software of claim 22, the binding module further allowing the user to specify the business implementation to apply to a business process.

24. (Previously presented) The software of claim 22, the binding module further allowing the user to specify programmable semantics of the data flow module.

25. (Previously presented) The software of claim 22, the link is provided in a programmable language having XML syntax.

26-28 (Cancelled)